Appointment of M.Ps. on various Government Committees|Commissions

4194. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Members of Parliament are appointed on the various Government Committees|Commissions without any set guidelines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of M.Ps. have been appointed on two or more Government Committees whereas some have not been appointed on any such Committee except Consultative Committees;

(c) what are the details of the M.Ps. who are on more than three Government Committees and what are the reasons for this preferential treatment; and

(d) whether the consent of the Prime Minister is obtained before the appointment of Members of Parliament on various Government Committees and if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No. Sir, While nominating Members of Parliament on various Government bodies, the field of interest of the Member, his|her past experience and his|her other assignments at the given time are kept in view. There are also certain Committees like the Telephone Advisory Committees, Postal Advisory Committees and Railway Users' Consultative Committees on which Members are nominated on the basis of their constituencies|permanent addresses.

(b) and (c) 202 Members belonging to both Houses are at present on two or more than two Government Committees. No preferential treatment is given to any Member in the matter of nomination on Government Committees. As stated in reply to part (a) of the Question, there are certain Committees on which Members are nominated on the basis of their constituencies|permanent addresses. This factor may result in some Members serving on more number of Committees.

(d) Hon'ble Prime Minister's approval is obtained in the case of important and High Powered Committees.

Measures for economic use of water

4195. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate programmes for public awareness regarding economic use of water keeping in view of water scarcity, and drought situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government have written or propose to write to States and various voluntary organisations in the matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) This is being done through [illegible]ns, seminars etc. Water Resources Day is observed at various places in the country to create awareness of water as a scarce and valuable resource. Conservation of water is also covered in the draft National Water Policy. In the context of current water scarcity, the States affected by drought have been requested to review operational measures to ensure a more [illegible] regulation of reservoirs and to conserve water for optimum use. Instructions have been issued to State Governments to associate voluntary organisations in implementing drought relief works.

Supply of drinking water to each village in Gujarat

4196. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages in Gujarat at present are without drinking water

(b) by when drinking water is likely to be available there;

(c) how much amount has been spent during the last three years, year-wise in each district of Gujarat for providing drinking water; and

(d) how much amount is likely to be provided and released to Gujarat for drinking water during 1st September, 1987 to 31st December, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) At the end of July, 1987, approx. 3913 problem villages did not have safe source of drinking water facilities.

(b) In accordance with the aim of the Seventh Five Year Plan, all the villages will be covered with safe drinking water supply by the end of the Seventh Plan.

(c) The amount spent on providing safe drinking water facilities in Gujarat in the last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	(Provisional) MNP	ARWSP
1984-85 . . .	21.60	8.46
1985-86 . . .	16.19	8.53
1986-87 . . .	17.64	10.67
TOTAL :	55.43	27.66

District-wise expenditure is not monitored by the Central Government.

(d) A sum of Rs. 5.48 crores is likely to be released under ARWSP during 1st September, 1987 to 31st March, 1988. Release of funds during 1st April, 1988 to 31st December, 1988 will depend upon the allocation of funds for 1988-89.

Drought Relief to Gujarat

4197. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any long term or short term schemes for providing drinking water have been received by the Central Government from Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) how much assistance in kind and cash have been given for these schemes by the Central Government to Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) how much assistance is likely to be provided during 1st September, 1987 to 31st December, 1988;

(e) whether the Central Government have recently announced some more relief and aids and assistance to Gujarat and other States keeping in view the drought and scanty condition; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Schemes for providing safe drinking water in villages under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) have been received by the Central Government for technical clearance.

(b) During 1987-88, 11 schemes covering 16 villages at an estimated cost of Rs. 54.83 lakhs have been approved. 349 schemes covering 356 villages esimated to cost Rs. 592.70 lakhs which were received recently are being scrutinised for clearance.